nominated, by designation, to the Block Development Committee. The Deputy Commissioners are also empowered to increase the number of non officials (of all categories including Chairman/Sarpanch of Village Panchayats and excluding M.L.A.'s and M.P.'s) in Block Development Committee up to 20-22 so as to give adequate representation to the entire Block area. When there are no Panchayats in a Block area, the Deputy Commissioners are authorised to nominate leading public workers in place of the members of Village Panchayats. In selecting the non-officials members of all categories (*i.e* , including Chairmen of Village Panchayats/Sarpanchs) for nomination, the Deputy Commissioners, will, as far as possible, take care to see that there is at least one member from each of the Gramasevak circle so that there may be a fair representation for all the areas covered by the Block.

The Block Development Committees will be replaced in due course by the elected Taluk Boards. In the case of Sarpanchs/Chairmen of abolished Village Panchayats who are members of the exis ing Block Development Committees instructions have been issued to continue them on the Block Development Committees in their personal capacity.

Granting of Pay Scale of clerks to shroffs in Taluk Treasuries.

Q.—12. Sri P. ANJANAPPA (Sira).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether they propose to grant to the shroffs in taluk treasuries, the scales of pay and grades given to the clerks ;

(*b*) whether they intend to grant them at least now the grade pay of Rs. 50-3-80-4-120 ?

A.—Sri J. H. SHAMSUDDIN (Deputy Minister for Finance).—

(*a*) No.

(*b*) No.

Prevention of Shanbhogs and Patels to contest the ensuing elections to Local Bodies.

Q.—28. Sri J. NARAYANAPPA (Mulbagal).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that they have notified that Patels and Shanbhogs are not entitled to contest ensuing elections for Group Panchayats and Taluk Boards ;

(*b*) whether they are aware that this has caused discontentment among the people throughout the Sta e ?

A.—Sri T. SUBRAMANYA (Minister for Law, Labour and Local Self-Government).—

(*a*) No.

(*b*) No.

Thefts in the Timber Depots in North Kanara District.

Q.—30. Sri V. SRINIVAS SHETTY (Coondapur).—

Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(*a*) the total quantity of timber stolen from Dandeli Government Depot, Kurwatti Government Depot, and other Government Depots in North Kanara after the integration till now and their value ;

(*b*) the action they have taken in the matter ;

(*c*) the action they propose to take to prevent such thefts in future ?

A.—Sri K. F. PATIL (Minister for Forest and Transport).—

(*a*)—

Name of the Depot.	*Quantity of timber stolen*	*Value of timber stolen*
Dandeli Government Depot	27 rejected teak pieces	Rs 750
Kurwatti Govement Depot	Nil	Nil
Other Government Depots	Nil	Nil

(*b*) The case has been handed over to the Anti-Corruption Department.